Sri D. DASARATHAN :—" கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் பதில் கூறும்போது குறிப்பிட்ட நிலத்தின் மதிப்பு அதிகமாய் இருப்பதாலும், வேறு இடங்களுக்குச் செல்ல தாழ்த்தப்பட்டோர் நிராகரிப்பதாலும் தாமத மாகிறது என்று குறிப்பிட்டார். மனைக்கட்டுக்காக குறிப்பிடும் நிலங்களின் மதிப்பை நிலச் சொந்தக்காரர்கள் நிர்ணயிக்கின்றனரா ? அல்லது சர்க்காரே நிர்ணயிக்கின்றதா ? "

The Hon. Sri V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER :—" Which village and which site, Sir? "

Sri D. DASARATHAN :—" Generally, Sir. The sites that belong to caste Hindus . . ."

Mr. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member may put a separate question."

Poisonous effect of 'Sorghum' cholam.

* 366 *Q.*—Sri A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many persons died by eating 'Sorghum' cholam issued to the public by the Taluk Supply Officers in Ramanathapuram in the month of September 1953;

(*b*) in how many districts the sorghum cholam was distributed and its quantity per district;

(*c*) what was the quantity purchased, issued and the stock banned by the District Collector on account of some deaths at Ilayangudi and other places;

(*d*) why the variety was poisonous; and

(*e*) why rice ration was not issued in those rural areas?

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) One child died in Ilayangudi in Ramanathapuram district after taking raw flour and the food prepared out of the sorghum cholam.

" (*b*) The sorghum cholam was distributed in the following nine districts as indicated below :—

District.	Quantity despatched in tons.
Chingleput	817
Coimbatore	3,445
Madurai	2,037
The Nilgiris	195
North Arcot	1,433
Ramanathapuram	2,390
Salem	813
Tiruchirappalli	1,795
Tirunelveli	476
	13,401

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			TONS.
" (c) Quantity purchased ..	..	..	13,792
Quantity issued to districts	..	..	13,401
Stock banned by Collectors	..	..	9,124

" (d) The poisonous effect of sorghum cholam is attributed to the presence of dhatura seeds in the consignment.

" (e) No rice is issued through Fair price shops in the rural areas."

MR. SPEAKER :—" This question came before the House a number of times."

SRI A. RATNAM :—" இதற்கு சொர்க்கச் சோளம் என்று பெயர் வந்ததற்குக் காரணம் இந்த சோளத்தைச் சாப்பிட்டால் சொர்க்கத்திற்குப் போவார்கள் என்ற காரணத்திற்காகவா அல்லது வேறு எந்தக் காரணத்தினுல் இந்தப் பெயர் கொடுக்கப்பட்டது என்று சொல்வார்களா ? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I am glad at the fun which the hon. Member is making on that term. ' Sorghum ' is a derivation of the term ' Solam '."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to place on the table of the House a list of deaths that had taken place in other districts due to the taking of this poisonous foodstuff? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" No report of deaths has been received from other districts."

DR. K. B. MENON :—" Since such deaths have taken place, will the Government make it a practice to institute sample tests whenever foodstuffs are imported on such a large scale from outside? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Yes, Sir. We are taking all precautions to see that this incident does not occur in future."

Lease of right for cutting surface green manure in Musiri taluk.

10-30 a.m. * 367 Q.—SRI K. ARANGANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) whether the right of cutting the surface of brush wood tree in a reach of the river padugai in Musiri taluk was leased out without public auction during 1947 to 1949 and 1951;

(b) if so, to whom; and

(c) whether any audit objection was raised against this procedure, and if so, what it was?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (a) Right of cutting surface green manure (which is apparently what the Member means by ' Surface of brush wood trees ') was leased out in public auction during 1947–48 on 30th June 1948 and from 1948–49 onwards this was not leased out.